

The Hawaiian Star.

(Daily and Semi-Weekly.)

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1898.

Poverty such as there is in the older countries we fortunately do not know here. A case appeared in a London paper the other day where an artist deliberately broke a street lamp in order to get a night's lodging in the police station. The man had had neither food nor lodging for two days. He was sentenced to fourteen days imprisonment, and when the magistrate imposed sentence, the prisoner implored that he would add hard labor. And the magistrate acquiesced. The request seems strange, but imprisonment at hard labor carries with it better food than ordinary imprisonment. But what a comment on our civilization of the close of the nineteenth century. The wildest extravagance, the most lavish expenditures side by side with poverty and starvation, which those who have lived all their lives in these blessed isles can never realize.

FALLING BIRTH RATES.

The falling birth rate in France has called forth a great deal of comment and even French writers regard the country as committing a kind of racial suicide and painlessly destroying itself. If this reasoning were true it would indeed be all up with France, and in time the more expansive races on the frontiers would gradually overtake the country which has for so many centuries led Europe in advanced thought, in polish and elegance of manner and of dress.

But an English writer points out that the birth rate is declining in Great Britain and in all countries of Europe. The only thing the matter with France being that its birth rate began to decline sooner than that of the rest of Europe. It is quite conceivable that a couple of generations hence France may find that her birth rate is no longer the lowest in Europe.

The fact is that the present growth in European population is a phenomenon which is almost entirely confined to the last 150 years. Through some of the greatest periods of their history, the population of these nations has been stationary. This view of the case is a novel one, and the more striking as the argument comes from an English, not from a French pen.

It is a great pity that our birth statistics are so unsatisfactory here. The death statistics can be fairly relied on, for a person cannot be buried without a certificate from the Board of Health, but the registry of births is constantly evaded. There have been no prosecutions under the law, but The Star is convinced that were there a few fines imposed, these statistics would be as accurate as they are in other countries.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Children are happy in the excellent class of books supplied them. In no branch of literature has there been such an advance. And it is not only children's books but children's magazines which have improved. Compare the St. Nicholas of today with "Kingston's Magazine for Boys" of forty years ago. And yet Kingston's was considered a wonderful production in its day. And so it was. Fancy the emancipated child of today being brought up on a diet of Sanford and Merton, Maria Edgeworth's or Miss Kavanagh's moral tales and the dialogues of Mrs. Merceer and Dr. Aiken. And then the awful woodcuts. The moral gentleman always appeared in stove-pipe hat and swallow-tailed coat and nankeen breeches and low shoes, even when bearing the blessings of civilization and rum to the aboriginal heathen in the wilds.

But if one goes further back and studies the literature of the young of last century, one finds something very wonderful indeed. It was a coarse age in spite of much veneer of refinement, and high born ladies of refinement were accustomed to use language which would make a dock laborer turn pale. They evidently brought up their youth on strong meat, for a work for young people, published in 1704, contains material which is not of an elevating or proper character, but it

throws much light on the manners of the age, far more than the work of the greater writers.

We should be very thankful for our present literature for the young. It is not coarse, as it was a couple of hundred years ago. It is not goody, goody, as it was fifty or sixty years ago. It is strong and virile, inculcates best of lessons and employs the pens of some of our foremost writers. Of course there is a great deal of rubbish printed, and there is a line of vicious literature, for young people, but it is only where parents are careless that the vicious literature creeps in. There is so much that is of interest both for boys and girls, and it is gotten up in such attractive and cheap form, that it readily out-tops the vicious, and poorly printed trash. The kindest thing a parent can do for his young growing children is to see that they are supplied with new, up-to-date children's books and a good child's magazine.

BIG PRICES.

The land sale which took place at Paia on Saturday afternoon, December 17th, was indeed a phenomenal one. There were three lots for sale, and each of them sold for a little over five times the appraised value or upset price. This is really a remarkable sale and points to the fact that Maui people in their quiet way, without walking round with a chip on their shoulder, are thoroughly realizing the value of their island, for all the buyers belonged to the island and two of the number were native Hawaiians.

The lands in question are situated in Nāhiku among the Falls of East Maui. A couple of years ago it would have been hard to give the land away and no one wanted it, unless the chances of permanent government and therefore capital were assured. So the land lay a waste of guava scrub, ferns, ohia, kukui, lauhala and so forth. The thundering waterfalls crashed over the cliffs and the streams roared over their rocky beds to the ocean, with no tribute to the soil in the shape of irrigation. For miles there would be no habitation.

Now all this is being changed. The district, one of the most fertile on the island, awakes out of its lethargy. The valleys which have only heard the roar of the cataract and the rush of the stream will wake to the sound of the steam whistle and the ax, and man will enter upon his kingdom. Cultivation and civilization will reign, but the wild beauty of the Koolau district will be gone. Again this is progress under annexation.

HILO'S BOAST.

Says the Hilo Tribune: "The Advertiser remarks that Hilo isn't boasting very much over its garrison, viz: sixteen sick soldiers left from Major Sague's command. This is where the Advertiser is mistaken; we are boasting very much over the fact that every one of the soldiers has come through safely, a record of which, we are sorry to say, Honolulu is very far from being able to boast."

This is rather hard on the military hospitals. The sick soldiers in Hilo were not treated by the military doctors.

THE HAWAIIAN TRUST AND INVESTMENT CO.

WILL BUY

FOR YOU

ANY

Stock or Bond

In this Market
or Abroad.

GEO. R. CARTER, Mgr.

Office in rear of Bank of Hawaii, Ltd.

BANK OF HAWAII, LTD.

By vote of the stockholders of the Bank of Hawaii, Ltd., a

Savings Department.

Will be inaugurated January 1, 1899. Ordinary and term deposits will be received at once, and interest allowed in accordance with rules and conditions as printed in the Pass Books.

Copies and terms of conditions upon which deposits will be received may be had on application, or mailed to those desiring same.

THE BANK OF HAWAII, LTD.
CHAS. M. COOKE,
President.
Honolulu, December 15, 1898.

Timely Topics.

December 17, 1898.

What shall I get for a Christmas present for my friends? is certainly a "Timely Topic."

Mr. Vetlesen, of our firm, had Christmas presents in mind while he was in the Eastern markets purchasing stock, and in addition to the LAMPS spoken of, he selected a line of handsome

GILT FRAME MIRRORS

for mantles and dressers. They are made with the best of French Plate Glass, and are of the finest workmanship.

VASES AND CANDELABRA

in Pompeian and Griffin designs with gilt, ruby and dark green coloring were also selected, and must be seen to be appreciated.

HANDSOME MANTLE CLOCKS

which are worthy a place in the finest home in Hawaii are in stock and for sale.

All are designed especially for Christmas Gifts and are marked at a low figure to correspond with the usual low prices offered by us.

In selecting your Christmas Gifts you will do yourself an injustice if you fail to call and examine this specially selected stock.

HAWAIIAN HARDWARE CO.
FORT ST., opp. Spreckels' Bank.

CHRISTMAS

You feel poor when you stop and compare your purse with your heart. No matter how rich you are in either, you want to give

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL,

USEFUL AND BEAUTIFUL.

HANDSOME, ORNAMENTAL,

AND LOW-PRICED,

THAT WILL LAST

FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT

We can show you more things from 25c up to \$100 that come under the above headings than you can find in any other store in Honolulu.

We don't want all your money, but we do want you to go through our stock before you go elsewhere. We can help you out wonderfully.

THE PEOPLE'S STORE

W. W. DIMOND & CO.
(LIMITED.)

DON'T!

DON'T place your shoes against the heater after coming in from the rain.

DON'T fail to wipe them at least once a week with a soft rag.

DON'T put them in a closet where there is not free circulation of air.

DON'T leave them where they can get soaked or burnt.

DON'T leave a shoe wet with perspiration where it has no chance to dry; perspiration is bad for leather.

DON'T put your shoes away dirty, wipe and dress them.

DON'T fail to have a change: Two pairs of shoes worn alternately, will outwear three pair worn consecutively.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST:

DON'T forget to buy your shoes from McINERNY'S.

The Grandest Christmas Display Ever Shown.

McInerny's Shoe Store

FORT STREET, HONOLULU.

NEW GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Now being opened by the

PACIFIC HARDWARE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Bradley & Hubbard Manufacturing Company claim that they have sent us the finest and most

Artistic Line of Lamp Goods

that has ever been put out from their factory. We introduced this factory's goods years ago and have always found them unequalled. We have

Table, Banquet, Boudoir, Piano, Library,
Student, Hall Lamps and Veranda Lanterns
made specially for breezy corners.

NEW PATTERNS OF

Picture Mouldings and Picture Frames.

A choice selection of the celebrated COPLEY PRINTS, for lovers of Art. Vickery's Specialties, and a line of Vickery's Latest Novelties to arrive.

Cutlery Just Received.

China Firing a Specialty.

The Great Clearance Sale!

STILL GOES ON.

The Balance of the Stock having arrived, we are now prepared to sell at the following prices:

Fine White Dress Goods, 5 cents a yard	Heavy Flannelettes, new patterns, 10c a yd
Fine Printed Nainsooks, 5 " "	Fine French Organdies, 15 yards, \$1.00
French Printed Organdies, 10 " "	Victoria Lawns, 32 in. wide, 10 yds, 75c.

All other Goods at Proportionate Prices.

DOLLS AND TOYS

At your own price, the whole Stock must be cleared.

RUGS AND CARPETS at Half Price.

TREMENDOUS BARGAINS IN

MILLINERY

All being the very Latest Styles, selected from a fashionable Regent Street, London, Stock

Sailor Hats, the Latest Style, \$1.25 each.

Table Linen and Napkins at Bargain Prices.

Towels, Bedspreads and Blankets, must be sold at any price.

Sheetings and Pillow Cases will be sold at a sacrifice.

This is the Opportunity of a Lifetime. Embrace it.

Ready Made CLOTHING, COLLARS and CUFFS. NECKTIES and a Complete Stock of UNDERWEAR will be cleared at any price as we are going out of the business.

L. B. KERR, IMPORTER!
QUEEN STREET,